



NEWS RELEASE

PRESS OFFICE

Release Date: October 26 1998

Release No: 98-94

Contact: Patricia L. Young (202) 205-6740

SBA News Releases: www.sba.gov/news/

SBA ANNOUNCES SELECTION OF NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) today announced the selection of the new chair and vice-chair for the agency’s National Advisory Council (NAC).

The new appointments are, as chair, attorney David F. Chappell of Chappell, Parmelee, Johnson & Hill P.C. in Ft. Worth, Texas and, as vice chair, Diane L. McClelland, founder and president of the McClelland Company, Inc. in Portland, Ore. Mr. Chappell and Ms. McClelland will serve on the NAC Executive Committee for a term of 2 years, providing advice and counsel on how SBA programs and services are impacting the small business community.

“We are delighted to welcome Mr. Chappell and Ms. McClelland as chair and vice-chair of the NAC Executive Committee,” said SBA Administrator Aida Alvarez. **“Their past service to the advisory council brought invaluable insight and perspective to the group. I look forward to continuing our working relationship and building on the progress we’ve made toward helping the SBA provide meaningful support and service to small businesses.”**

Shirl Thomas, the SBA’s director of external affairs added, “I am so pleased that David Chappell and Diane McClelland agreed to take leadership positions in the National Advisory Council. The NAC members are volunteers who take time from their own families and businesses to partner with SBA in growing America’s small businesses. Leadership positions require even more time. We are lucky to have them.”

Mr. Chappell is a board-certified civil trial lawyer. His firm’s major concentrations of practice include business, insurance, commercial, employment, tort litigation, public law and banking law. Mr. Chappell has served on the NAC under the last two SBA administrators. He currently chairs the Entrepreneurial Development Committee and serves on the Executive Committee as the point person for Region 6, which encompasses Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and New Mexico.

Mr. Chappell became involved in the small business community as a member of the Ft. Worth City Council. In the early ‘90s, he chaired the Strategic Planning Committee, which worked to offset the loss of 20,000 jobs due to defense industry downsizing by developing innovative projects to create and enhance small business activity. The resulting business assistance center is recognized as a national model for the development and support of small business.

-more-

The McClelland Company is a research and business development firm, which identifies marketing and selling opportunities within the women's business ownership market for financial services companies. Ms. McClelland developed *The Gateway to the Women's Market Information Campaign*, the company's initiative to develop data about women's opinions on business subjects, including the management and decision-making processes used in choosing financial products and services. A veteran of the financial services arena, Ms. McClelland has held various positions in the banking industry. She also co-founded the Foundation for Women Owned Businesses, a non-profit organization geared at providing financial and technical assistance to Oregon women business owners.

Named the 1989 Women in Business Advocate of the Year by the SBA, Ms. McClelland was appointed to the National Advisory Council in 1996. She currently co-chairs the Access to Capital Committee.

The SBA's National Advisory Council is made up of approximately 130 volunteers who serve as the eyes and ears and voice of the SBA. In addition to monitoring how SBA's policies and programs are impacting small business, NAC also helps to inform the public about SBA programs and services.

The council includes at least one representative from each state, the District and Puerto Rico, plus representatives of trade associations and non-profits who have an interest in the creation and growth of small businesses. Appointments are made based on recommendations from SBA officials, regional administrators, the administration, members of Congress, small business organizations and associations, and other small business leaders.

-0-

The U.S. Small Business Administration, established in 1953, provides financial, technical and management assistance to help Americans start, run, and grow their businesses. With a portfolio of business loans, loan guarantees and disaster loans worth more than \$45 billion, the SBA is the nation's largest single financial backer of small businesses. Last year, the SBA offered management and technical assistance to more than one million small business owners. The SBA also plays a major role in the government's disaster relief efforts by making low-interest recovery loans to both homeowners and businesses.

America's 23 million small businesses employ more than 50 percent of the private workforce, generate more than half of the nation's gross domestic product, and are the principal source of new jobs in the U.S. economy.

###